

Appl. No. 10/018,157  
Amdt. Dated December 31, 2003  
Reply to Office action of October 3, 2003

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful examination given to the present application.

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office action, and it is respectfully submitted that the application as amended is in condition for allowance.

Claims 10-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 10 and 18 have been amended to overcome the rejection. Also, a definition of the calibrated check valve is given on page 5, lines 16-21. Therefore, claims 10-18 are in condition for allowance.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34110.

Respectfully submitted,

PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By:

  
Suzanne B. Gagnon, Reg. No. 48924

1801 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 1200  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3108  
(216) 579-1700

Date: 12-31-2003